

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 704

By Hargrove

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Jewell Catherine
Hendley Medley, Chief Elder, The Hendley
Family Association, Inc. of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the accomplishments of those Tennesseans who, during their respective lifetimes, served their fellow citizens with the utmost integrity, dedication, and ability; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Catherine Hendley was born May 30, 1923 in Clay County, near the town of Moss, Tennessee. She was the daughter of Willis Aden "Adie" Hendley of Putnam County and Mary Daisy Landcaster of Monroe County, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Hendley attended elementary schools in Clay, Macon, Sumner, and Trousdale Counties; she was an exceptional student and as a second grader excelled under the guidance of her teacher, Loucille Cothron; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Hendley was joined in holy matrimony with the late Elijah Prophet Taylor of Lafayette, Tennessee. They resided in Portland until the passing of Mr. Taylor on November 28, 1956; and

WHEREAS, the blissful union shared by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor produced one child, a son, Mr. Harvey Harry Taylor, born on June 23, 1953 while visiting Trafalgar, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Catherine Hendley Taylor moved to Johnson County, Indiana where she met and married Arthur E. Fulmer on July 12, 1957 at the United Baptist Church in Brown County, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, she was a dedicated homemaker and was a valued employee of Rider's Canning factory in Trafalgar, Indiana for many seasons; and

WHEREAS, after a voluntary divorce in 1981, she married Mr. William E. Medley of Franklin, Indiana on June 23, 1982 at the Church of Christ in Franklin where she was a member for 20 years at her passing; and

WHEREAS, she was a valued member of The Franklin Senior Center for several years and was associated with the "Kitchen Band" as a tambourine player and singer of religious hymns; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Medley ascended to the honored position of Clan Elder (the second) of the Francis Marion Hendley Clan, branch of The Hendley Family Association, Inc. of Tennessee on September 30, 1983; and

WHEREAS, she further ascended to the highest honor of Chief Elder (the sixth) of The Hendley Family Association, Inc. of Tennessee (eldest of both branches of the Association) on August 24, 1998, the second to become Chief Elder from the Francis Marion Hendley Clan since the establishment of the Association in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Medley and her two brothers were honored by Mayor Herschel E. Cook on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the founding of the City of Franklin, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, October 24, 1998 was declared as "Hendley Family Day" in Franklin; a proclamation called all citizens to join in "recognizing the role that this family has played in a group effort to better our community" and referred to Governor Ned Ray McWherter's statement, "It is appropriate today that we pause to remember who we are, where we came from and what we have been taught"; and

WHEREAS, February 2, 1999 was truly a sad day for those who knew and loved Jewell Medley as she moved on to a far better existence; she was buried at Nineveh Cemetery in Johnson County, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, she was also deeply devoted to family, and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Jewel Medley was the great granddaughter of Elizabeth Jane Gentry Hendley, and sister to the late Wilby "Wilber" J. Hendley and to John H. Hendley; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jewell Catherine Hendley Medley leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mrs. Jewell Catherine Hendley Medley, a native daughter of this great state, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Medley, and to The Family Association of which she served as matriarch.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.